THE

# Theatrical Observer;

AND

## *Daily Bills of the Play.*

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

*No.* 5679. *Wednesday, March* 4, 1840. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

### COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

LAST night the performances here consisted of *A Legend of Florence, He Would be an Actor*, and *The Fortunate Isles.* The next Shakspearian revival will be *Romeo and Juliet.* Miss Jane Mordaunt is to be the heroine, we are told; if such be the case, this young lady must throw a little more animation into her acting than she is wont to do, to stand any chance of success.

The Queen, and Prince Albert, honored this Theatre with their presence last night.

### DRURY LANE THEATRE.

YESTERDAY evening, *Mary Stuart*, and *The Mountain Sylph*, were performed. In the latter Mr. Allen appeared for the first time as *Donald*, in the absence of Frazer, having volunteered his services in aid of the struggling company. Mrs. Warner has likewise given her assistance by performing gratuitously.

### HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

LAST night, the new *prima donna*, Mdlle. De Varny, having recovered from her *nervous* affection, we mean "catarrhal cold," M. Laporte opened the doors of this house to a multitudinous rush of folks, anxious to witness the commencement of the Italian Opera season. Donizetti's Opera of *Torquato Tasso*, which has obtained a very great success on the continent, was fixed upon as the introductory piece. Torquato Tasso lived in the sixteenth century, and arrived at the highest degree of honor and reputation as a literary man in general, as a poet, and as a politician. His immortal poem, "Godfrey; or, Jerusalem Delivered," raised the envy of his enemies, and the favor which he enjoyed at the Court of the Sovereign of Ferrara, incited them to annoy and persecute him whenever they could. Unfortunately for Tasso, they succeeded in discovering the secrets of an attachment which he had conceived for the Duke of Ferrara's sister, Countess Eleanora, who distinguished him, and gave him unequivocal marks of her affection and esteem. He was banished the court and city of Ferrara, exiled from the States, and even imprisoned as a man whose mind is out of order, but some powerful and influential friends at length obtained his release, whereupon he repaired to Rome, and received that reception which his high reputation at once demanded and deserved, and he was decreed the same honors which had been paid to Petrarch, being crowned the Prince of Poets, on the capitol; but the illustrious poet, consumed by an ardent passion, which his heart could not stifle, and broken hearted through the unjust treatment he met at the hands of persons on whom he had never inflicted injury, but who were nevertheless

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jealous of his merits, expired on the eve of his coronation, April 27, 1505.

The character of *Tasso* was sustained by a new *basso*, Signor Coletti, from the Lisbon Theatre, and we are glad to be able to speak in favorable terms of this gentleman. His voice is very similar to that of Tamburini, whose place it is said he is to fill, if anything of a superior quality to the latter, and possessing great facility of execution, The other two *débutans*, Mademoiselle De Varoy, from the Academie Royale de Musique of Paris, and Signor Ricciardi took the characters of *Eleanora*, sister to the *Duke of Ferrara*, and *Geraldini*, the Duke's secretary.

## Fashionable Lounges.

*To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.*

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town :—

Monday, stroll'd to Madame TUSSAUD's elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker-st., Portman Sq.—Just added to their unrivalled collection, the splendid full length figures of Her Majesty the Queen, in her Windsor uniform, and Prince Albert in his military costume, also the group of John Knox, reproving Mary Queen of Scots, consisting of Mary, Elizabeth, Henry VIII, Luther, Calvin, and Knox, in magnificent costumes.

Tuesday, pop into the COSMORAMA, 209, Regent Street, to view the new and splendid views now exhibiting—quite delighted. Much amused with the astonishing feats of *The Industrious Fleas*, which are also daily to be seen here.

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at EVANS's Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,—quite delighted with the excellence of the singing, commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Wednesday, pay a visit to the Somerset Gallery, Strand, next to Somerset House, to witness *The Industrious Fleas* go through their extraordinary performance of dancing, riding, driving, &c. also two Fleas deciding an affair of honour sword in hand. I then visited the Royal Glass Working Exhibition, paid only sixpence for admission, and received an article in return.

"All good *spirits* come to my *Beck*," at his Dr. Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commences every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigars, billiards, good beds, and an enticing bill of fare.

Thursday, drop into *The Florentine Anatomical Museum*, 27, Margaret Street, Regent Street, to admire the splendid Anatomical Figures of Venus & Adonis, modelled from nature, and as large as life,

Afterwards visit the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, to view *Catlin's North American Indian Gallery*,—containing 500 Paintings, made by his own hand, during seven years' travel amongst the Wildest Tribes of Indians in North America; and also an immense Collection of Indian Curiosities, Dresses, Weapons, &c.; and a *Crow Wigwam*, 25 feet high—a magnificent specimen from the Rocky Mountains.

On the same day, paid a delightful visit to *The Typorama*, Quadrant, Regent Street, a large and accurate modelled view of *The Undercliff of the Isle of White*, constructed by L. L. B. Ibbotson, sq. For the lovers of Geology, a number of the fossils have been collected, and specimens of the remarkable plants, sea weeds, insects, &c. found in the neighbourhood.

Friday, called at Emmett's, 27, Holborn Hill, to view his Novel Pen Maker by which any one can make a superior Pen in less than one minute—also his much improved Needle Threader, to enable Ladies, whose sight is impaired to thread their needles with the greatest ease—a most ingenious contrivance.

"Why are my eyes like Balfe's Opera of *The Maid of Artois?*" "Because they've got the *Light of Other Days* in them!" through trying the efficacy of GRIMSTONE's Herbacious Eye Snuff—a 2s. 4d. & 1s. 3d. Canister restored my visual organs—quite a miracle—left off my spectacles.—Bought at 39, Broad-st. Bloomsbury—have a care to the inventor's signature—and that it is patronized by the Royal Family and authorized by her Majesty's Treasury on each canister.

On Saturday, I examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's &c.—PAUL PRY.

# Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

To-morrow Evening, (20.h Time) a New Historical Tragedy, in Five Acts, entitled

# MARY STUART.

*The Scenery, by Mr. Marshall. The Music, by Mr. A. Lee.*

Henry Stuart, Earl of Darnley, &c.,....Mr PHELPS,
James, Earl of Morton, Mr G. BENNETT,
The Earl of Ruthven.....Mr MACREADY,
Lord Lindsay, Mr WALDRON,
Chalmers, Mr KING, Earl of Bothwell, Mr YARNOLD
Earl of Huntley, Mr HEATH,
Maitland of Lethington, Mr H. MARSTON,
George Douglas, Mr HOWE,
David Rizzio, (Favorite of the Queen) Mr ELTON,
Garcia, (his Friend) Mr ROBERTS,
Andrew Kerr Mr HOWELL, Sir J. Ballenden, Mr Fenton
Laird of Lochleven, Mr HATTON,
Sir James Melville, Mr J. LEE, Erskine, Mr MELVILLE
Sir Nicholas Throgmorton, Mr J. W. RAY,
Suitors, Mr DURUSET, Mr MEARS, Mr HUCHEL &c
Mary Stuart, (Queen of Scotland) Mrs WARNER,
The Countess of Argyle, Mrs W. WEST,
Lady Catherine, Miss EMMELINE MONTAGUE,
Celine, Miss COOPER, Marguerite, Miss PETTIFER

In the course of the Evening, the **BAND** will perform

Overture ..... "Mary Stuart" ..... Spohr.

After which, (12th Time) a New Comic Opera, in One Act, called

# 'My Lord *is not* My Lord.'

*The whole of the Music by BOIELDIEU (12th Time in England)*

The Marquis de Valmont.....Mr LEFFLER,
Frontin, Mr H. PHILLIPS, The Bailli, Mr MORLEY,
Antoine....Mr ROBERTS, Blaise.....Mr DURUSET
Lisette, Mrs ALBAN CROFT.

To conclude with, the Farce of

# High Life Below Stairs.

Lovel, Mr COMPTON, Freeman, Mr ROBERTS,
Philip, Mr ADDISON, Tom, Mr YARNOLD,
My Lord Duke's Servant, Mr VINING,
Sir Harry's Servant..... Mr OXBERRY,
Kingston, Mr RICHARDSON,
Coachman..Mr FENTON, Robert..Mr MEARS,
Kitty, Miss DALY,
Lady Bab's Maid.....Miss PETTIFER,
Lady Charlotte's Maid, Miss COOPER,
Cook..Miss BARNETT, Cloe..Mrs MELVILLE.

# Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

To-morrow Evening, (*43rd Time*) a New Original Play, in Five Acts, written by *JAMES SHERIDAN KNOWLES*, called

# L O V E !

Duke of Carinthia ..... Mr COOPER,
Prince Frederick of Milan, Mr SELBY,
Count Ulrick..... Mr DIDDEAR,
Sir Rupert of Lorch, } *Knights* { Mr J. VINING,
Sir Otto of Steinberg, } *Knights* { Mr WIGAN,
Sir Conrad of Hohenfels, } *Knights* { Mr FITZJAMES,
Huon,.....(a Serf,).. .....Mr ANDERSON,
The Empress, Mrs BROUGHAM,
The Countess of Eppenstein, Miss ELLEN TREE,
Katherine, (an enfranchised Serf) Madame VESTRIS,
Christina, Miss LEE. Bertha, Mrs EMDEN,

To conclude with, (42nd Time) a New Grand Comic Christmas Pantomime, called

## HARLEQUIN AND THE

# Merrie Devil OF Edmonton

OR, THE

# GREAT BED of WARE

PALACE OF PANTOMIME, in the Province of Fun.
Mother Goose, Mr GRANBY,
*The SMITHY of OLIVER SMUG,*
Maister Oliver Smug, (*the Village Smith,*) Mr RIDGWAY,
Edwin, the Hunchback, (*his Apprentice*) Mr C. J. SMITH,
*WATER-MILL*
Mister Peter Banks, (*the Miller & Maltster*) Mr MORELLI,
Gertrude,.....(*the Miller's Daughter*).....Miss FAIRBROTHER
King Henry VIII, (*the Flower of Chivalry,*) Mr S. SMITH,
Maister Harrison Saxby, (*H.M. Master of Horse*) Mr GOURIET,
*Dwelling of Maister Peter Fabell, & Asbestos, the Merrie Devil,*
In the Ruins of the Old Belfry of St. Agnes.
Maister Peter Fabell, (*the Magician of Edmonton*) Mr S. JONES,
Asbestos, (*the Merrie Devil*) Mr GIBSON.
*GALLERY AND STAIRCASE in the GEORGE INN,*
ANCIENT CHAMBER IN THE GEORGE INN,
In the centre of which stands the

# GREAT BED OF WARE !

Transformation of the Characters,—Harlequin, Mr C. J. SMITH,
Clown, Mr T. RIDGWAY, Pantaloon, Mr MORELLI,
The Merrie Devil, Mr GIBSON, Columbine, Miss FAIRBROTHER
*MILESTONE a short distance from LONDON.*
COTTAGE with LONDON IMPROVEMENTS in perspective.
*Cab Stand, and the Exterior of the Jolly Dogsmeatman.*
Exhibition Room of the "Eccaleobion," 121, Pall Mall,
*Armourer's Forge on the road to Eglintoun.*
Grand Moving Panorama, (Painted by the Messrs Grieve,) of the

# Clyde from Glasgow to Eglintoun.

REALMS OF SUNSHINE.

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